

REMARKS

Applicants have submitted this Request for Continued Examination so that the Examiner may consider the alternate claims as modified herein. Applicants have amended claim 19 to overcome the Examiner's objections of this claim. Accordingly, in light of the claim modifications, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the objections to claim 19.

In regard to the double patenting rejections set forth by the Examiner, Applicants have submitted concurrently herewith a terminal disclaimer which disclaims the terminal portion of the patent extending beyond the life of the previously issued parent application. Accordingly, Applicants submit that in light of the terminal disclaimer submission the double patenting rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the prior art rejections set forth by the Examiner under 35 USC sections 102 and 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art references of record, whether considered alone or in combination fail to either teach or suggest Applicants' presently claimed invention. More specifically, by this amendment, Applicants have modified each of the independent claims to specify that a threshold voltage of said amplifying element is reduced. Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art references of record do not teach or suggest this advance in the art.

Additionally, Applicants have added new claims which alternately distinguish and define the invention by specifying that the amplifying element for each of the added claims operates linearly over its range of operation. This feature of the invention is described throughout the specification and specific support is found on page 18 of the

Appln. No. 10/747,741
Reply to Office Action of June 12, 2008
Amendment dated: December 12, 2008

application in the final paragraph. Applicants submit that this operating characteristic improves the performance of the imaging device and the art of record does not teach or suggest reducing the threshold voltage as claimed.

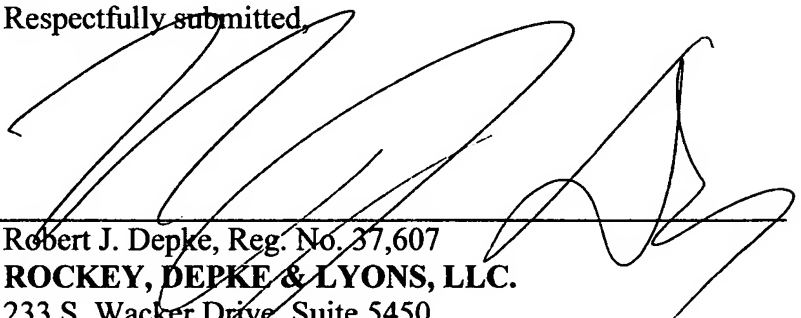
Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

In the event that it is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3891.

Date:

12/12/08

Respectfully submitted,



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